November 21, 2011

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Postal Regulatory Commission 901 New York Avenue N.W., Ste 200 Washington DC 20268-0001

re: Closure of Alplaus Community Post Office

Contract No. 089480-02-Z-0155

POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECREDARY

Received

NOV 29 2011

Dear Sirs/Mesdames:

Office of PAGR

The Postal Service has informed us of a decision to close the Alplaus Community Post Office by January 6, 2012. This action is being taken by USPS, it says, as a result of a collective bargaining agreement recently entered into with the United Postal Workers Union.

The Postal Service's decision to close our Post Office and provide mail delivery service raises questions concerning the sanctity of the mail and the risks involved in rural box delivery. We also foresee inconveniences in purchasing money orders and stamps and sending accountable mail. We have the same concerns regarding the receipt of accountable mail, such as certified letters, registered letters and COD's.

Our specific objections to the method in which USPS has chosen to close our Post Office are as follows:

- 1. USPS failed to follow proper procedures as set forth in 39 US Code Section 404(d) concerning the closure "of any Post Office . . ." in that USPS did not provide adequate notice of its intention to close the Alplaus Community Post Office at least 60 days prior to the proposed date of such closing to persons served by such Post Office, including those who have signed below, to insure that such persons will have a opportunity to present their views. The first notice any of the undersigned received concerning the intended closure was after USPS sent the contract Postmaster, Kathleen Boyle, a letter dated October 28, 2011, which letter she received on November 4, 2011 (see copy attached) notifying her of the closure. There was no invitation for public comment of any kind in that letter nor in any posting or other correspondence with any of the undersigned.
- 2. USPS did not consider the effect of such closing on the community served by the Post Office or whether such closing is consistent with a policy of the government, so as to provide a maximum degree of effective and regular postal service to the Alplaus Community, nor the loss of revenue, nor lack of economic savings, to USPS resulting from such closure, as is required by 39 USC Section 404 (d)2. In fact, no explanation was given in the letter for the closure except that it was required by the terms of a collective bargaining agreement with the United Postal

Workers Union. After we were notified of the intended closure we received a personal visit from a local UPW official who told us that the closure was not requested by UPW and was, in fact, simply offered to UPW by USPS in a recent collective bargaining session.

- 3. With respect to the effect of the closure on those served by the Alplaus Community Post Office, that effect is serious and negative in that there is no good alternative for the residents of the Alplaus Postal District for mail services. The closest alternative Post Office is in another town, on a main New York State highway, where postal rental boxes are only available in limited numbers as most of the available boxes are already rented. Additionally, many Alplaus residents, especially elderly postal customers, walk to the Post Office and either cannot drive or prefer not to drive to another town in order to send and receive their mail and to purchase other postal services. Neither do any of the current postal box rental customers want to bear the expense of installing a rural delivery box or digging a post hole when winter is upon us.
- 4. Many of the undersigned Alplaus Community Post Office customers do not want rural delivery due to security concerns inasmuch as access to private rural boxes can be gained by anyone. Many of the undersigned have either home businesses or operate actual commercial businesses and cannot leave valuable packages and/or mailings in an insecure rural mailbox. This fact, combined with the lack of available rental boxes in alternative Post Offices presents a serious problem for many of the undersigned customers of the Alplaus Community Post Office.
- Community Post Office. The Alplaus Post Office generates approximately \$40,000.00 of profit for USPS each year. This profit is calculated by subtracting the Contract Postmaster's salary of \$22,000.00 from the gross annual revenues of approximately \$62,000.00. USPS has no expenses related to the operation of the Alplaus Community Post Office except to have one of its employees drop off a bag of mail each morning and another employee pick up a bag of mail each evening, as part of their normal route. The \$40,000.00 annual profit for USPS will not be recovered by other post offices because there are not enough rental boxes in those other post offices. Additionally, USPS will have to pay more to the rural delivery postal employees to serve those homes added to the rural delivery routes as a result of the closure of the Alplaus Community Post Office. There is also a UPS Store located at about the same distance from the Alplaus Community Post Office as the closest alternative post office.
- 6. In sum, the undersigned feel that USPS has failed in its obligations under 39 US Code Section 404 to provide proper notice to the customers affected by the closure, or to properly consider the effects of such closure or to notify any of the affected postal customers of the reasons for its actions, other than to simply blame the closure on the United Postal Workers Union.

We feel that, as citizens of the United States, we are entitled to the same efficient postal service provided to our counterparts in urban areas. The Postal Reorganization Act is explicit in pointing this out. We petition you, as members of the Postal Regulatory Commission, to respectfully consider our protest and to order the Postal Service to give additional considerations to our service needs.

Please consider this a formal Petition, as set forth in 39 USC Section 404(d)5, that the determination of the Postal Service to close the Alplaus Community Post Office is: (a) arbitrary, capricious, and an abuse of discretion, and otherwise not in accordance with the law; (b) without observance of procedure required by law, and (c) unsupported by substantial evidence on the record.

We urge the Postal Regulatory Commission to suspend the effectiveness of the determination of the Postal Service until the final disposition of this appeal. We hereby authorize you to reply to us by sending a written determination C/O Andy Gilpin, President of The Alplaus Resident's Association, PO Box 185, Alplaus, NY, 12008

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Thank you.

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## **ADDRESS**

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Copy fettor received 11/2/11

## Customer Product and Fulfillment Category Management Center UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

October 28, 2011

Kathleen Boyle P.O. Box 87 Alplaus, NY 12008-0087

Re: Alplaus CPO - Contract No. 089480-02-Z-0155

Dear Kathleen Boyle,

As a result of an agreement with the American Postal Workers Union, this letter is to notify you that the Alplaus CPO, Contract Number 089480-02-Z-0155, is being terminated effective close of business on January 6, 2012. The Postal Service hereby exercises its legal right to terminate with 60 days written notice pursuant to Section C, Item 1.b of your contract.

Please acknowledge receipt and acceptance of this notification by completing Blocks 15A, B, & C on the attached Modification to Contract 004, and return to Attn: Diana Heyburn, 3300 S Parker Rd Suite 400, Aurora CO 80014-3500 or fax to 303-743-1208. Once the signed modification is received you will be provided an executed copy of the agreement for your files.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 303-743-1304 with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Diana L. Heyburn

Purchasing Specialist (Contractor)

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Enc.

AMENDMENT OF SOLICIATION WODIFICATION OF CONTRACT		1. CONTRACT ID CODE	PAGE	OF -	
2, AMENDMENTANCE FOR TOTAL SEFFECTIVE DATE	4. RE0	L QUISITION/PURCHASE REQ.NO.	5, PROJ	EOT NO. (Fecciosols)	
004 10/28/2011 6. ISSUED BY SCOE 2DCPAC	7.40	AINICTEDED DV /// albor than from 6)	000E 20	7712	
Diana L. Heyburn		MINISTERED BY (If other than Item 6)			
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Customer Products & Fulfillment CMC		Customer Products & Fulfillment CMI			
United States Postal Service		United States Postal Service 3300 South Parker Road, Suite 531			
3300 South Parker Road, Suite 400 Aurora CO 80014-3500	1	Aurora CO 80014-3500			
303-743-1304					
8, NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONTRACTOR (No., street, county, State and ZIP Code)	(x) 9A.	AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION NO.	(9)		
KATHLEEN BOYLE ATTN KATHLEEN BOYLE	9B.	9B. DATED (SEE ITEM 11)			
P O BOX 87 ALPLAUS NY 12008-0087		10A MODIFICATION OF CONTERNOT DEDERAC			
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SUPPLIER CODE 000034809 FROUTH SODE		27 27 27 2			
11. THIS ITEM ONLY APPLIES	S TO AMENON				
Offers must acknowledge receipt of this amendment prior to the hour and date specified it	io the policit-ti			7 8787567	
Offers must acknowledge receipt of this amendment prior to the nour and date specified in Items 8 and 15, and returning copies of the amendment; (b) By acknowledge receipt of this amendment prior to the nour and date specified in the specified in the specified in the specified in the specified in the nour and date specified in the specified i	m me sonatan nowledaina rec	eipt of this amendment on each copy of the	offer submitted; o	r (c) By	
separate letter or telegram which includes a reference to the solicitation and amendment	number. FAIL	URE OF YOUR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO	O BE RECEIVED	AT	
THE PLACE DESIGNATED FOR THE RECEIPT OF OFFERS PRIOR TO THE HOUR A	ND DATE SPE	ECIFIED MAY RESULT IN REJECTION OF	YOUR OFFER. I	f by	
virtue of this amendment you desire to change an offer already submitted, such change n			n or letter makes		
reference to the solicitation and this amendment, and is received prior to the opening hou 12. ACCOUNTING AND APPROPRIATION DATA (If required.)	or and date spe	called.			
See Schedule					
13. THIS ITEM APPLIES ONLY TO MODIFICATIONS OF CONTRACTS/O	RDERS. IT M	ODIFIES THE CONTRACT/ORDER NO. AS	DESCRIBED IN I	TEM 14,	
A. THIS CHANGE BY CLAUSE IS ISSUED PURSUANT TO: (Specify dause) TH	HE CHANGES	SET FORTH IN ITEM 14 ARE MADE IN TH	HE CONTRACT		
ORDER NO. IN ITEM 10A.  SECTION C - DELIVERY/PERFORMANCE - ITEM	1.B				
B. THE ABOVE NUMBERED CONTRACT/ORDER IS MODIFIED TO REFLECT		TRATIVE CHANGES (such as changes in	paying office,		
appropriation date, etc.) SET FORTH IN ITEM 14.		THE CHANGE OF FORTHUM	EN ALABE MARE	IN THE	
C. THIS SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT IS ENTERED INTO PURSUANT TO THE CONTRACT ORDER NO. IN ITEM 10A.			CAST WINATESTICS.		
D. OTHER (such as no cost change/cancellation, termination, etc.) (Specify type THE CONTRACT ORDER NO. IN ITEM 10A	of modification	and authority): THE CHANGES SET FOR	RTH IN ITEM 14 AF	RE MADE IN	
60 DAY NOTICE OF TERMINATION					
E. IMPORTANT: Contractor is not, is required to sign this docume			the issuing office.		
14, DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION (Organized by UCF section heading	igs, including s	olicitation/contract subject matter where lea	asidię.)		
AS A RESULT OF AN AGREEMENT WITH THE AMERICAN	POSTAL	WORKERS UNION. THIS I	S YOUR 60	) DAY	
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			72 0122		
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COR WILL ISSUE A LETTER TO THE SUPPLIER (IF R)	EQUESTE	D) TO RELEASE THE SUPI	PLIERS BO	ND.	
Period of Performance: 12/01/2001 to 01/06/20					
Except as provided herein, all terms and conditions of the document referenced in Item 9A	or 10A, as he	retofore changed, remains unchanged and NAME AND TITLE OF CONTRACTING O	in full force and eff	ect, print)	
15A, NAME AND TITLE OF SIGNER (Type or print)				,	
Ť	MAI	RYANNE MOORE			
15B. CONTRACTOR/OFFEROR 15C. DATE SIGN	NED 16B	CONTRACT AUTHORITY		16C DATE SIGNED	
X					
(Signature of person authorized to sign)		(Signature of Contracting Officer)			



CUSTOMER PRODUCTS & FULFILLMENT CMC CONTRACT POSTAL ACCESS CHANNELS ATTN DIANA HEYBURN 3300 S PARKER RD STE 400 AURORA CO 80014-3500 GERTIFIED MAIL

7011 1150 0001 9437 7748

First-Class Mail
Postage & Fees Paid
USPS
Permit No. G-10

KATHLEEN BOYLE
PO BOX 87
ALPLAUS NY 12008-0087

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